

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AGR-20 AID-20 NSC-10

RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

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R 291831Z JUN 73 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1423
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EGEN

SUBJ: FRENCH OFFICIAL EXPRESSES CONCERN ABOUT EXPORT EMBARGO
ON SOYBEAN

REF: STATE 126473

1. FREYCHE, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ADVISER TO PRE-
SIDENT POMPIDOU, EXPRESSED CONCERN TO US TODAY ABOUT
WHAT HE CALLED OUR SUDDEN AND DRASTIC DECISION TO EMBARGO
SOYBEAN EXPORTS. HE ASKED ABOUT OUR REASONS FOR THIS ACTION.
WE DREW ON REFTEL TO REPLY. FREYCHE REMARKED THE DECISION
WAS IRONIC IN VIEW OF THE RECENT STRONG DEMARCHE THE U.S. HAD
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MADE AGAINST FRENCH PROPOSALS FOR ESTABLISHING A CAP FOR

SOYBEANS. HE SAID THE EMBARGO WOULD STRENGTHEN THE HAND OF THOSE WHO ARGUED THAT THE U.S. WAS AN UNRELIABLE SOURCE OF THIS VITAL COMMODITY AND THAT DEFENSIVE MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN BY THE EC. FREYCHE SAID THAT THE PRINCIPAL PRESSURES FOR A CAP ON SOYBEANS WITHIN THE GOF CAME FROM THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. OTHER AGENCIES HAD BEEN LUKEWARM TOWARD THE PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, IT WOULD NOW BE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT FOR THESE AGENCIES TO RESIST PRESSURES FROM THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. THEY WOULD NEED ALL THE HELP THEY COULD GET FROM THE U.S. IN THE FORM OF PROOF THAT WE COULD EXPAND SUPPLIES QUICKLY ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH SITUATIONS LIKE THE PRESENT ONE. DRAWING ON MATERIAL IN THE USIS WIRELESS FILE, WE POINTED OUT THAT BECAUSE OF THE EXPANSION OF ACREAGE AUTHORIZED EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE U.S. EXPECTED A LARGE INCREASE IN SEPTEMBER SOYBEAN CROP. WE ALSO NOTED THAT IN DEALING WITH THE PRESENT TEMPORARY SITUATION, U.S. OFFICIALS HAD GIVEN ASSURANCES THAT FOREIGN CUSTOMERS WOULD BE GIVEN A FAIR SHARE UNDER THE ALLOCATION SYSTEM TO BE ANNOUNCED ON JULY 2.

2. COMMENT: IF WE ARE TO HAVE ANY HOPE OF OFFSETTING THE ADVERSE REACTION TO THE SOYBEAN EMBARGO IN FRANCE, WHERE STRONGEST, WE MUST PROVIDE THE MOST CONVINCING EVIDENCE POSSIBLE OF OUR ABILITY TO SUPPLY FORESEEABLE EXPORT NEEDS AND IN PARTICULAR TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH UNEXPECTED SITUATIONS LIKE THE PRESENT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING FOR CURRENT USE ANY INFORMATION WHICH THE DEPARTMENT AND THE USDA CAN SUPPLY US ON THIS POINT. IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO HAVE SUCH INFORMATION ON A CONTINUING BASIS.

DECONTROL DECEMBER 31, 1974.
IRWIN

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